

Application No. 10/805,983
Attorney Docket No. 2004B022
Reply to Office action dated October 13, 2006
Response dated November 10, 2006

REMARKS

With regard to the requirement for election and restriction, which is the only point raised in the Official Action mailed on October 13, 2006, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, the Group I claims, namely, Claims 1-11, for examination.

However, it is believed that the Group II claims, Claims 12-27, are so closely related to the Group I claims that they should remain in the same application in order to preserve unity of invention.

The difference among the Groups I and II claims have been noted, but it is felt that the difference is not necessarily conclusive on the question of restriction and election. It is believed that the Office Action is trying to draw too fine a line of distinction and that when all the facts are taken into account, Groups II claims should remain in this application. Furthermore, a search of one Group would necessitate a search for the other, and therefore, it would be efficient to search both groups together.

With regard to the requirement for election a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse Group I, Claims 1-16, and reserve the right to file divisional applications to the non-elected Group II claims.

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CONCLUSION

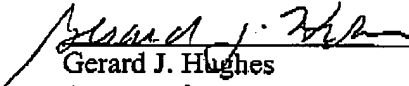
It is believed that an action on the merits is in order and such is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

If necessary for a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient for a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1712 (Docket #: 2004B022).

Respectfully submitted,

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